

# 2017 Las Vegas Strip shooting: Difference between revisions

Coordinates: 36°54′2″N 115°10′18″W﻿ / ﻿

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**Revision as of 13:40, 5 October 2017 (view source)**

Anthony22 (talk | contribs)

(moved sentence from the wrong section into the correct section. This article needs a lot of work.)

← Previous edit

**Latest revision as of 13:47, 5 October 2017 (view source)**

Ahpook (talk | contribs)

(→Shooting: Improved punctuation)

**Line 49:**

The perpetrator was found dead, having shot himself in the head before the police entered.<ref name="WP1">{{cite news |last1 = Hawkins |first1 = Derek |last2 = Andrews |first2 = Travis M. |title = At least 20 dead, 100 injured at shooting on Las Vegas Strip, police say |url = https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2017/10/02/police-shut-down-part-of-las-vegas-strip-due-to-shooting/ |accessdate = October 2, 2017 |work = The Washington Post |date = October 2, 2017 }}</ref><ref name="foxnews">{{cite web |url = http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/10/02/las-vegas-shooting-at-least-50-dead-more-than-200-injured-in-massacre.html |title = Las Vegas shooting: At least 50 dead, more than 200 injured in massacre |first1 = Adam |last1 = Housley |first2 = Jake |last2 = Gibson |first3 = Brooke |last3 = Singman |date = October 2, 2017 |publisher = [[Fox News Channel]] |accessdate = October 2, 2017 }}</ref><ref name="AU1">{{cite news |last1 = Law |first1 = James |title = What we know about Las Vegas shooter Stephen Paddock |url = http://www.news.com.au/world/north-america/what-we-know-about-las-vegas-shooter-stephen-paddock/news-story/84534e9684ee5eda80a6989c109fe013 |accessdate = October 2, 2017 |publisher = [[News.com.au]] |date = October 2, 2017 }}</ref><ref>{{cite web |url = http://uk.businessinsider.com/las-vegas-shooting-reports-of-gunman-at-mandalay-bay-casino-2017-10?r=US&IR=T |title = 50 people are dead and more than 400 are injured after a mass shooting in Las Vegas |first = Kieran |last = Corcoran |date = October 2, 2017 |work = [[Business Insider]] |accessdate = October 2, 2017 }}</ref> At 11:27{{nbsp}}p.m. the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department announced over the radio that one suspect was down.<ref>{{cite news |title = UPDATE: Police release photo of woman wanted for questioning |url = http://www.ktnv.com/news/crime/police-respond-to-reports-of-active-shooter-near-mandalay-bay |publisher = [[KTNV-TV|KTNV]] |date = October 2, 2017 }}</ref><ref name=":3" />

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<div></div>	<div></div>
<div>== Casualties ==</div>	<div>== Casualties ==</div>

Latest revision as of 13:47, 5 October 2017

On the evening of October 1, 2017, a mass shooting occurred at the Route 91 Harvest music festival on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, a town adjacent to Las Vegas, Nevada. During the closing performance by singer Jason Aldean, a gunman opened fire on the outdoor festival crowd from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay resort and casino.

The shooter, whose motive remains unknown, was 64-year-old Stephen Paddock of Mesquite, Nevada. After firing into the crowd for almost 11 minutes, he was found dead in his hotel room with a self-inflicted gunshot wound.<sup>[3]</sup> With 59 deaths (including the perpetrator) and 489 injuries, the massacre is the deadliest mass shooting by a lone shooter in U.S. history.<sup>[2][4]</sup>

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2017 Las Vegas Strip shooting



Location	Las Vegas Strip, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.
Coordinates	<span><span><span><span><span>36°5′42″N</span> <span>115°10′18″W</span></span></span><span><span>﻿</span> / <span>﻿</span></span><span><span></span></span></span></span>
Date	October 1, 2017 about 10:08–11:58 p.m. (PDT; UTC−07:00)

## Background

Since 2014, the Route 91 Harvest country music festival has been held annually at Las Vegas Village, a 15-acre (6.1-hectare) lot used for outdoor performances. The venue is 450 meters (490 yards)<sup>[5]</sup> from the Mandalay Bay hotel in Paradise, Nevada,<sup>[6]</sup> on the opposite side of Las Vegas Boulevard.<sup>[7][a]</sup>

## Shooting

On October 1, 2017, singer Jason Aldean was giving the closing performance on the third and final day of the festival, which was attended by about 22,000 people.<sup>[8]</sup>

During Aldean's performance, Paddock fired hundreds of rifle rounds into the festival audience from two windows that he had broken with a hammer<sup>[9]</sup> in his hotel suite on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel.<sup>[10][b]</sup> The attack began at about 10:05 p.m. PDT.<sup>[11][12]</sup> Many people in the crowd initially mistook the gunfire for fireworks.<sup>[13]</sup> The gunfire continued intermittently over the course of ten minutes and stopped by 10:15 p.m.<sup>[14][15]</sup>

At 10:17 p.m. the first officers arrived on the 32nd floor of the hotel. A hotel security guard had been wounded in the leg by a shot that Paddock had fired through the door of the room. The guard used his radio to tell the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department that the gunman was in room 32135.<sup>[10][15][16]</sup>

By around 10:26 p.m., a group of law enforcement officers had reached the floor of the shooter and placed it on lockdown.<sup>[17]</sup> Not hearing any gunfire, officers moved systematically down the hallway during the next five minutes, searching and clearing each room. At around 11:20 p.m., police breached the room with explosives.<sup>[17]</sup> The perpetrator was found dead, having shot himself in the head before the police entered.<sup>[18][19][20][21]</sup> At 11:27 p.m. the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department announced over the radio that one suspect was down.<sup>[22][15]</sup>

A large quantity of ammunition and 23 firearms were found, including AR-15, Kalashnikov, AR-10<sup>[23]</sup> and other .308 caliber rifles.<sup>[24]</sup> Two of the rifles were mounted on bipods and were equipped with telescopic sights.<sup>[25][26]</sup> The rifles that were recovered included several AR-15 variants: a Daniel Defense DDM4 and an FN Herstal FN 15.<sup>[1]</sup> Audio recordings of the attack indicated that the perpetrator used modified semi-automatic weapons with devices that can simulate fully automatic fire by using a bump fire device or trigger activator.<sup>[27]</sup> Bump fire stocks<sup>[28][29]</sup> were found on 12 of the guns, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives determined that the guns were legal.<sup>[30]</sup> Numerous over-sized magazines that were capable of holding up to 100 rounds apiece were also found.<sup>[31][32]</sup> Authorities said Paddock had brought more than 10 suitcases into his hotel suite.<sup>[10]</sup> Investigators also found hidden cameras placed inside and outside the hotel room, presumably so Paddock could monitor the arrival of police.<sup>[33]</sup>

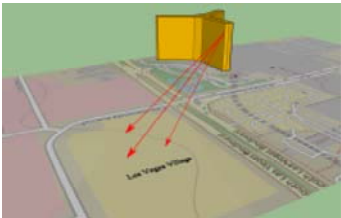
## Casualties

Fifty-eight people (not counting the shooter) were killed as a result of the shootings, including three who died in the days immediately after the incident.<sup>[34][35][2]</sup> An additional 489 people were injured.<sup>[36]</sup> Many were sent to hospitals that included the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada and Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center.<sup>[7][37][38][39]</sup>

## Perpetrator

The gunman was identified as Stephen Craig Paddock (April 9, 1953 – October 1, 2017), born in Iowa.<sup>[40][41]</sup> He lived in a retirement community in Mesquite, Nevada.<sup>[8][42]</sup> Police found 23 firearms—22 rifles and one handgun—inside the hotel room that he had occupied since September 28.<sup>[13][43]</sup> The firearms, along with more guns found stored in his homes, had been bought in the states of Nevada, California, Texas and Utah.<sup>[30]</sup> According to police, he acted alone with no known motive.<sup>[20][44]</sup> Police have not identified him as a terrorist.<sup>[45][46]</sup> They said they had no investigative information or criminal history showing he was dangerous. His only recorded interaction with law enforcement was a citation years before the shooting, which he settled in court.<sup>[47]</sup>

<b>Target</b>	Route 91 Harvest music festival attendees
<b>Attack type</b>	Mass shooting, murder –suicide
<b>Weapons</b>	Daniel Defense DDM4 <sup>[1]</sup> <div>FN 15 semi-automatic rifle<sup>[1]</sup></div>
<b>Deaths</b>	59 (including the perpetrator) <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Non-fatal injuries</b>	489
<b>Perpetrator</b>	Stephen Paddock
<b>Motive</b>	Unknown



Mandalay Bay hotel, where Paddock fired weapons from 32nd floor, at concertgoers in Las Vegas Village.<sup>[a]</sup>



Location of the shooting at Las Vegas Village is on the right, behind the two gray columns. Mandalay Bay hotel is gold building on left side of frame<sup>[b][c][d]</sup>

The week before the massacre, Paddock wired US\$100,000 to an account in the Philippines, the country where his live-in girlfriend had traveled.<sup>[48]</sup> Police, relatives, and neighbors described Paddock as a high-stakes gambler,<sup>[49][47]</sup> and police said he had made casino transactions in the tens of thousands of dollars prior to the shooting, but did not specify whether these transactions were losses or wins.<sup>[50]</sup> Court records show he married and divorced twice. He had no children. His younger brother and others who were in close contact with him described him as an ordinary man with no apparent religious or political affiliation.<sup>[51]</sup>

Paddock's father, Benjamin Paddock, was a bank robber who was placed on the FBI's most-wanted list in 1969 after he escaped from federal prison; he was taken off the list in 1977.<sup>[52][53]</sup> The FBI wanted poster said he was "diagnosed as psychopathic" and had "reportedly suicidal tendencies".<sup>[47]</sup> The children and their mother had no contact with him after the youngest was born.<sup>[51]</sup>

## Aftermath and reactions

A large portion of Las Vegas Boulevard was shut down as police SWAT teams combed the venue and neighboring casinos, hotels, and businesses. McCarran International Airport was closed for several hours due to its close proximity to the festival site,<sup>[54]</sup> and multiple flights were rerouted or canceled due to the shooting. Some individuals entered the airport property as they fled from the shooting.<sup>[13]</sup> At approximately 2:45 p.m. PDT on October 2, a state of emergency was declared in Clark County.<sup>[55][56]</sup>

Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval called the shooting "a tragic and heinous act of violence that has shaken the Nevada family".<sup>[57]</sup> Jason Aldean, who was performing when the shooting started, posted his condolences on Instagram and noted that all of those working with him at the show had survived the attack.<sup>[58]</sup>

At a press conference, President Trump described the shooter as "a very very sick individual", "a demented man, lot of problems, I guess". He added that "the police department has done such an incredible job, and we'll be talking about gun laws as time goes by".<sup>[59][60]</sup> A White House official talking points memo, distributed to Trump allies, opposed tightening gun control since "new laws won't stop a mad man", but "will curtail the freedoms of law abiding citizens".<sup>[61]</sup>

Stock prices of firearms manufacturers rose the day after the mass shooting, as has happened after similar incidents. Investors expect that gun sales will increase over concerns that a such an event could lead to more stringent gun-control legislation as well as a rush of customers wishing to defend themselves against future attacks.<sup>[62][63]</sup>

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant claimed that Paddock was their soldier who was inspired by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's call to attack coalition countries.<sup>[64]</sup> However, the FBI said "we have determined, to this point, no connection with an international terrorist group."<sup>[65]</sup> ISIL provided no evidence for its claim, and terrorism experts noted that since losing control of Mosul, the pro-ISIL Amaq News Agency had on at least two previous occasions made false claims of responsibility for attacks with which ISIL had no connection.<sup>[66][67]</sup>

## Hoaxes and misinformation

In the hours after the shooting, false information about the shooter's identity and motive went viral on social media. The fake news was circulated by political fringe websites and Internet forums such as 4chan.<sup>[68]</sup> The right-wing website *The Gateway Pundit* misidentified the shooter, naming a different man and describing him as a registered Democrat. The 4chan thread on which this misinformation was based was briefly featured in the "Top Stories" section of a Google search for the man's name.<sup>[69][70]</sup> The fake news website *YourNewsWire* spread false information about a second gunman shooting from the fourth floor of the hotel.<sup>[71]</sup> Two of Facebook's top trending pages were items from Sputnik, a Russian government news agency that has been described by *Foreign Policy* magazine and the Centre for European Policy Analysis as being a "Russian propaganda" outlet.<sup>[72][73]</sup> These included one story that falsely claimed the FBI had linked the shooter to a terrorist group,<sup>[74]</sup> the stories were later removed with an apology.<sup>[75]</sup>

Google and Facebook were criticized for prominently displaying such fake news in some of their search results<sup>[75][76][77]</sup> According to American journalist Alexis Madrigal, the two technology companies refused "to take responsibility for their active role in damaging the quality of information reaching the public".<sup>[78]</sup> Facebook later stated that although its algorithms were designed to detect and remove false stories, in this instance the algorithms had failed to work adequately.<sup>[76]</sup>

## See also

- Gun laws in Nevada
- Gun violence in the United States
- List of disasters in the United States by death toll
- List of rampage killers (Americas)

## Notes

- For (1) aerial photo of Mandalay Bay resort and casino, Luxor Las Vegas hotel & casino, and the site of the country music festival, and (2) aerial graphic of neighboring casinos (Tropicana, Excalibur Hotel & Casino, MGM Grand, New York-New York Hotel & Casino) and McCarran International Airport—in addition to Mandalay Bay, Luxor, and the site of the country music festival—see: Long, Heather; Berman, Mark; Hawkins, Derek (October 2, 2017). "Las Vegas gunman kills at least 58 in shooting rampage, 500 more injured" (<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/breakingnews/las-vegas-gunman-kills-at-least-58-in-shooting-rampage-500-more-injured/ar-AA5M6kd?li=BBnbkly&ocid=HPCDHP>). *The Washington Post*. Retrieved October 2, 2017.
- For (1) a graphic of the Route 91 Harvest Festival site (including the direction in which people fled, the bleachers under which people took cover, and an eight-foot fence over which people climbed), and (2) a diagram of the floor plan of the gunman's hotel suite and adjacent room (with connecting door), **go to**: "Chaos at a Concert and a Frantic Search at Mandalay Bay" (<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/02/us/mandalay-bay-vegas-shooting.html>). *The New York Times*. October 2, 2017. Retrieved October 3, 2017. **and scroll down to the fourth image** (entitled "What happened at the concert venue", for the graphic of the Festival site) **and then to the eighth image** (for the diagram of the hotel suite's floor plan).
- For an aerial graphic (in detail) of the Route 91 Harvest Festival concert venue (at Las Vegas Village), see: Myers, Amanda Lee (October 3, 2017). "Vegas hospitals swamped with victims after high-rise attack" (<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/breakingnews/vegas-hospitals-swamped-with-victims-after-high-rise-attack/ar-AA5QyZ8?ocid=HPCDHP>). MSN. Associated Press. Retrieved October 3, 2017.
- For a graphic of the Route 91 Harvest festival site (not in detail) and the Mandalay Bay, see: Crosby, Rachel; Brean, Henry; Hassan, Anita; Munks, Jamie; Bekker, Jessie (October 3, 2017). "'It was a horror show': Mass shooting leaves at least 59 dead, 527 wounded on Las Vegas Strip" (<https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/the-strip/it-was-a-horror-show-mass-shooting-leaves-at-least-59-dead-527-wounded-on-las-vegas-strip/>). *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Retrieved October 3, 2017.

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